



Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

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Weekly Summary for Aug 29-Sep 4

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Wildfires Added to Drought's Devastation

Thousands of acres burned in several wildfires around the state last week. Two large fires spanned several days and destroyed dozens of homes; one in northwest Oklahoma City and the other in the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge in Comanche County. Other grassfires in Grady County and in Cleveland County, near Noble, were reported. The summer heat wave claimed its 21st victim last week according to the Oklahoma Medical Examiner's Office. The devastating heat continued until a cold front came in Sunday. Temperatures for the week averaged in the mid-80s with average highs in the upper 90's for most districts. The cool air did not bring storms with it, and the precipitation for the week was a meager 0.14 of an inch for the state. The lack of moisture meant little fieldwork was accomplished as the normal time for small grain planting approached. Topsoil moisture conditions declined again, with 81 percent of the state rated very short. Subsoil moisture conditions were unchanged with 87 percent rated very short. There were 6.6 days suitable for field work.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent

Week Ending Sunday, September 4, 2011

Moisture Rating	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago
Topsoil			
Very Short	81	77	26
Short	18	21	42
Adequate	1	2	32
Surplus	0	0	0
Subsoil			
Very Short	87	87	21
Short	13	13	53
Adequate	0	0	26
Surplus	0	0	0

Small Grains: Little progress was made in seedbed preparations for all small grain as producers waited for additional precipitation. Plowing of **wheat** ground was 89 percent complete and 33 percent of seedbeds were prepared by week's end, 27 points behind normal. **Rye** ground plowed was 88 percent complete and 24 percent of seedbeds were prepared by Sunday, 36 points behind the five-year average. Plowing of **oat** ground was 92 percent complete with 29 percent of seedbeds prepared. **Canola** seedbed preparation reached 50 percent complete by the end of the week, up six points from the previous week.

Row Crops: Crop conditions continued to be rated mostly very poor, leading to the large amounts of acreage that have been baled, chopped for silage, or otherwise abandoned during this difficult crop year. Peanuts were rated mostly fair. Of the **corn** still in the fields, 96 percent reached the dent stage, 48 percent was mature and 32 percent had been harvested by week's end. **Sorghum** heading reached 71 percent complete, coloring was 34 percent complete and 17 percent was mature by Sunday. **Soybean** blooming was 90 percent complete and 64 percent were setting pods by week's end. **Peanuts** setting pods reached 82 percent complete by Sunday, 16 points behind normal. **Cotton** squaring was 96 percent complete and 78 percent was setting bolls, 20 points behind normal. Twelve percent of the cotton had reached boll opening by week's end.

Hay: Production has dwindled for the state, as conditions were rated mostly very poor for all hay. Second cuttings of **alfalfa** were 94 percent complete and third cuttings were 39 percent complete by the end of the week, 60 points behind normal. First cuttings of **other hay** were 95 percent complete and the second cutting was only 19 percent complete by Sunday, 41 points behind the five-year average.

Pasture and Livestock: Pasture and range conditions were still rated mostly very poor. Livestock conditions were virtually unchanged and continued to be rated fair to poor. Producers continued to sell off cattle and look for hay out of state. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$135 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$123 per cwt.

Conditions by Percent

For Week Ending Sunday, September 4, 2011

Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	56	26	16	2	0
Sorghum	54	32	14	0	0
Soybeans	53	30	14	3	0
Peanuts	6	8	52	34	0
Cotton	70	26	3	1	0
Alfalfa	64	22	10	4	0
Other Hay	69	22	8	1	0
Livestock	14	22	47	17	0
Pasture and Range	65	25	9	1	0

Crop Progress by Percent <i>For Week Ending Sunday, September 4, 2011</i>					
Crop	Stage	Current Week	Previous Week	One Year Ago	Five Year Average
Wheat	Plowed	89	86	100	100
	Seedbed Prepared	33	26	56	60
Rye	Plowed	88	87	100	100
	Seedbed Prepared	24	18	62	60
Oats	Plowed	92	91	100	100
	Seedbed Prepared	29	28	35	46
Corn	Dent	96	92	95	78
	Mature	48	43	81	59
	Harvested	32	22	44	32
Sorghum	Headed	71	63	97	88
	Coloring	34	33	61	50
	Mature	17	11	20	16
Soybeans	Blooming	90	88	99	94
	Setting Pods	64	58	86	79
Peanuts	Setting Pods	82	70	97	98
Cotton	Squaring	96	94	100	100
	Setting Bolls	78	69	100	98
	Bolls Opening	12	11	32	22
Alfalfa Hay	2nd Cutting	94	93	100	100
	3rd Cutting	39	38	100	99
Other Hay	1st Cutting	95	94	100	100
	2nd Cutting	19	17	71	60

Weather for Week Ending September 4, 2011: Temperatures ranged from 53 degrees at Blackwell and Kenton on Sunday, September 4th, to 112 degrees at Altus on Tuesday, August 30th. Precipitation ranged from 0.02 of an inch in the South Central district to 0.29 of an inch in the Southeast district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 73 degrees at Butler on Sunday, September 4th, to 98 degrees at Tipton on Monday, August 29th.

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data <i>Week Ending Sunday, September 4, 2011</i>							
District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	Current Week	March 1, 2011 to September 4, 2011		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degree	Degrees	Degrees	Inches	Inches	Inches	Percent
Panhandle	96	67	82	0.03	4.83	-10.23	32
West Central	99	73	86	0.19	6.80	-12.21	36
Southwest	100	75	88	0.05	5.94	-13.44	31
North Central	100	73	86	0.24	10.51	-10.24	51
Central	99	74	87	0.12	12.65	-10.07	56
South Central	99	75	87	0.02	9.94	-13.27	43
Northeast	96	72	84	0.11	20.32	-4.42	82
East Central	96	73	84	0.18	22.56	-3.12	88
Southeast	98	72	84	0.29	20.92	-6.01	78

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